



1731  
PATENT

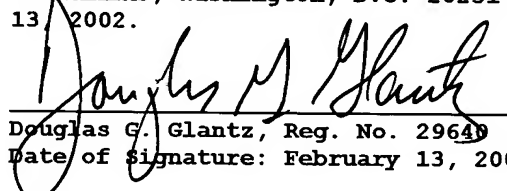
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Applicant: Lee Wilhelm ) Atty. Dock.: 13929.1  
Serial No.: 10/010,251 ) Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: November 8, 2001 ) Art Unit: 1731  
For: Paper Tissue Having Enhanced Softness

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 13, 2002.

  
Douglas G. Glantz, Reg. No. 29649  
Date of Signature: February 13, 2002

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO  
37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) BEFORE FIRST OFFICE ACTION

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), the Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits in the above-identified application.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorney, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449 and the copies of those documents presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

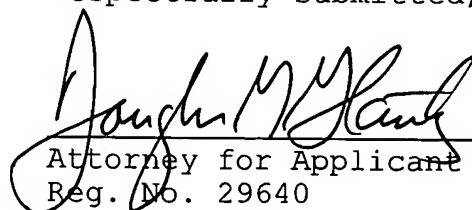
If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention, as defined in the claims of the application, is patentable over the disclosures, whether taken singly or in combination. However, this citation is made solely for the purpose of giving the patent Examiner full and convenient opportunity to make an independent review of these references during the examination of this application. No representation of any nature is made or intended by this disclosure.

Respectfully submitted,

February 13, 2002

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